

REMARKS

Claims 1, 4-9, 11, 14-16, 19, and 21 are present in this application. Claims 1 and 11 are independent claims.

Claims 2, 3, 10, 12, 13, 17, 18, 20, and 22 are canceled.

Claim Objections

Claims 5, 6, and 14-18 have been objected to for minor informalities. Accordingly, claims 5, 6, and 14-18 have been amended as recommended in the Office Action. In view of the claim amendments, Applicant requests that the objection be withdrawn.

§ 101 Rejection

Claims 9, 19, and 21 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101, as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. Applicants have amended claims 9, 19, and 21 to include the subject matter of claims 10, 20, and 22, respectively. Applicant requests that the rejection be reconsidered and withdrawn based on the claims as amended.

§ 102(b) Rejection – Shintai

Claims 1-3, 6-13 and 16-22 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Application Publication 2003/0022574 (Shintai). Claims 2, 3, 10, 12, 13, 17, 18, 20, and 22 have been canceled. Claims 1 and 11 have been amended. Applicant requests reconsideration of the rejection based on the claims as amended.

Claims 1, 11

Summary of the Claimed Features

The present invention relates to a wireless system (Fig. 11) having a wireless terminal (e.g., TV main unit 3) and a base device (e.g., wireless center 2). As disclosed in the present specification at page 33, line 23 to page 40, line 13 with respect to Fig. 9, the TV main unit 3 first broadcasts a connection request command (S512). The base device transmits its identification data to the wireless terminal (S522). The wireless terminal obtains the first incoming identification data after the broadcast of the connection request command (S513). The wireless terminal then broadcasts a connection process completion command to establish a connection to the base device identified by the obtained identification data (S514). The base station, upon receiving the connection process completion command (i.e., recognizing that connection has been established), transmits video/audio data to the wireless terminal.

However, if there are two or more wireless systems located close to each other (e.g., a wireless system located a room and another wireless system located in an adjacent room), more than one base station device could be present in the communications range of a single wireless terminal. In particular, two or more base devices may detect the connection request command that is broadcast from the wireless terminal (S512). Subsequently, each base device sends out its identification data. The wireless terminal establishes a connection only with the base device that reaches the wireless terminal first. The base device that establishes a connection first may not be the desired target base device.

The wireless terminal then proceeds to indicate establishment of a connection by broadcasting a connection process completion command (S514). Consequently, the base devices, including all those which have sent out their identification data, but actually have no connection established, receive the connection process completion command. The result is that the non-targeted base devices erroneously recognize that they have successfully established a connection to the wireless terminal.

Furthermore, even though the non-targeted base devices are not the intended target of the user, the non-targeted base devices appear to the user to be operating normally. For example, a non-targeted base device believing that it has established a connection, begins to transmit video data, even though the video data is not being received by the wireless terminal. Subsequently, the user is lead to believe that the base devices are all operating properly, and that the desired target base device is the device that is providing the video data to the wireless terminal. On the other hand, the user would have no way of knowing whether a successful connection has been established with the intended target base device.

An aspect of the present invention that provides a solution to the above-stated problem, as covered by claim 1, includes “connection counterpart notifying means for notifying, based on the first incoming set of identification data, a user of the base device to which the wireless terminal is currently connected,” enabling the user to know whether the video data being received by the wireless terminal is coming from the desired base device.

Furthermore, as disclosed in the present specification at page 40, line 14 to page 46, line 18, with respect to Fig. 10, the target base station device and the wireless terminal are switched to the connection confirmation mode in response to a user input after the connection is established (S616). The base station device sends a connection confirmation command to the wireless terminal (S626); if the wireless terminal does not receive the connection confirmation command, it alerts the user so that the user knows whether the video data being received by the wireless terminal is coming from the desired base device (S619).

This further aspect of the present invention is covered by claim 11.

Shintai

Shintai discloses a system for using a cellular phone to provide information necessary to identify the location of the cellular phone to a location information server. Shintai's system involves a cellular phone that receives base station identification numbers from several base stations 13 and designates one of the base stations to be its communication base station based on the reception signal power level or the like. (see para. 0023 and "Field of the Invention").

Differences over Shintai

Shintai discloses a completely different connection protocol than the present invention, and neither addresses the problem of the present invention nor the solution. For example, Shintai does not disclose the cellular phone broadcasting a connection request command and a connection completion command. Subsequently, Applicant submits that Shintai does not incur the same problem of the present invention of, a base station without a connection to the terminal (e.g., cellular phone) that transmits video data by an erroneous recognition of a successful establishment of a connection. In other words, in Shintai, because the cellular phone designates one of the base stations for communication, other base stations would not transmit video to the cellular phone.

For at least these reasons, Applicant submits that Shintai fails to teach or suggest at least the claimed wireless terminal of claim 1, as well as the wireless system of claim 11, and respective dependent claims, including, among other things,

"connection requesting means for broadcasting a connection request command that requests a connection with a base device;" and

"connection completion notifying means for, after the obtaining of the first incoming set of identification data, broadcasting a connection process completion command that indicates that the connection with the base device is established."

Applicant requests that the rejection be reconsidered and withdrawn.

§ 103(a) Rejection – Shintai, Pihl

Claims 4, 5, 14, and 15 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shintai in view of U.S. Application Publication 2003/0186707 (Pihl). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Applicant submits that at least for the reasons above for claims 1 and 11, dependent claims 4, 5, 14, and 15 are patentable as well. In addition, Applicant submits that Pihl fails to make up for the deficiencies of Shintai.

Thus, Applicant submits that the rejection fails to establish *prima facie* obviousness and must be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendment, applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact **Robert Downs** Reg. No. 48,222 at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37.C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: December 8, 2008

Respectfully submitted,

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